

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claims 3-22 are withdrawn.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite "all repeating units."

Claim 1 is objected to for informalities. It is asserted that claim 1, line 6, recites "the repeating units."

In the interest of clarification, Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite "all repeating units." Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the objection.

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite.

Applicants submit that the polymer of claim 1 comprises repeating units of formulae (1) and (3), and the total number of repeating units of formulae (1) and (3) is 50 mole% or more based on the total amount of all repeating units.

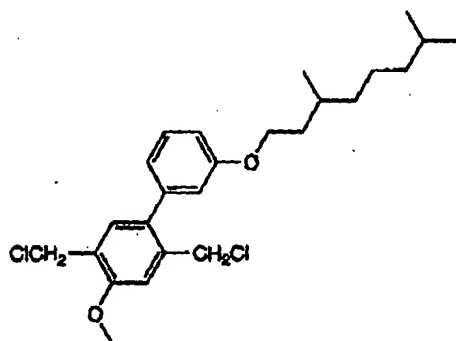
As described in the present specification, on page 23, lines 13-22, Applicants submit that the remaining portion of the polymer may be repeating units other than the repeating units of formulae (1) and (3), in an amount which does not deteriorate the fluorescent property and charge transfer property. Further, the repeating units of formulae (1) and (3) and other repeating units may be connected by a non-conjugated unit having an ether group, an ester group, an amide group, an imide group or the like, or the repeating units may contain non-conjugated parts. Applicants submit that the claims are clear and definite on their face. Therefore, Applicants

respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the § 112, second paragraph, rejection.

Claims 1 and 2 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as allegedly being unpatentable over Spreitzer et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,458,909 ("Spreitzer").

It is asserted that example E10 satisfies the structural features of claim 1. It is further asserted that it would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at Applicants' comonomer content in view of the fact that A9 contains 18 wt% of aryl substituted poly(*p*-arylenevinylene) units.

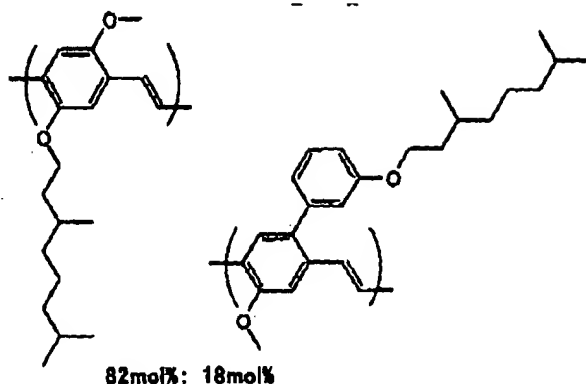
The structure of a precursor to a monomer unit E10, in Spreitzer, is shown below.



2,5-bis(Chloromethyl)-4-methoxy-3'-(3,7-dimethyl-octyloxy)biphenyl

Spreitzer discloses a poly(*p*-arylene-vinylene) comprising repeating units of formula (1). However, in Applicants' claimed invention, there is the presence of one or more repeating units of formulae (1) and (3). Therefore, Spreitzer does not teach or suggest the polymeric fluorescent substance of Applicants' claimed invention.

The structure of a copolymer A9 is shown below.



poly(2-(3,7-dimethyl-octyloxy)-5-methoxy-p-phenylene-vinylene)-co-(2-(3'-(3,7-dimethyl-octyloxy)phenyl)-5-methoxy-p-phenylene-vinylene)

However, in Spreitzer, the repeating unit is contained in an amount of 18 mol%, which is outside the range of present claim 1 (0.1 to 15 mol%) . Furthermore, the repeating unit of Spreitzer is a smaller energy unit, but in the present invention, the corresponding repeating unit of formula (1) is a larger energy unit. Applicants submit that the present invention is not obvious over Spreitzer. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the § 103 rejection.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Appln. No.: 09/883,275
Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

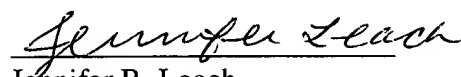
Respectfully submitted,

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